

Description of a Reading-Intensive Classroom-

From the Milwaukee Public School Comprehensive Literacy Plan

An effective reading intensive classroom is a print-rich environment that supports reading across the disciplines. It is full of a variety of purposeful and engaging literacy activities. All students are actively engaged in reading every day. Students utilize the reading process to read for a variety of purposes. They read a wide range of diverse literature and informational text. At all grade levels, students engage in reading high-quality books and text in other formats. Teachers and other adults use reading to help students build or activate background knowledge, broaden experiences, make connections, expand their view of the world, think critically, and develop a love of reading. Teachers model fluent reading and good reader behaviors and strategies. In reading classes, the lessons focus on specific areas of reading and the reading process while lessons in content area classes focus on literacy skills and strategies that are effective for the subject areas. Students are constantly reading for a various purposes and applying reading skills and strategies to read fluently and comprehend a variety of texts. They use reading, writing, speaking and listening, language and technology to explore and communicate knowledge and understanding.